



DBS COE Update

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Introducing DBS CoE

Introducing the Defense Business Systems Center of Excellence

"If I had an hour to solve a problem and my life depended on the solution, I would spend the first 55 minutes determining the proper question to ask... for once I know the proper question, I could solve the problem in less than five minutes." – Einstein

The Defense Business Systems Center of Excellence (DBS CoE), the latest capability of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics efforts meant to improve DBS outcomes, is a nexus of problem-focused technology-based thinkers whose core question is "What problem are we trying to solve?" Before doing deep dives – identifying and analyzing problems within the defense acquisitions space – it begins with this principle. This approach has positioned the DBS CoE to become a beacon on today's often harried government landscape – pairing program managers and other clients too busy scrambling to meet deadlines and "putting out fires" with subject matter experts who work closely with them to accurately determine why their programs may have stalled, while assisting in putting them back on track.

To accomplish this, the DBS CoE takes both a holistic and uniquely systematic approach. Its creative problem solvers

begin with a blank canvas and walk clients through a rigorous engagement process meant to:

1. Define the actual problem
2. Uncover the root-cause of that problem
3. Present solutions/recommendations to address the root-cause of the problem

To help members focus on the core problem, the DBS CoE uses a Five Lens Operational Assessment Tool, or "FLOAT" to contextually examine organizational Governance, Technology, Operations, Strategy and People & Culture root causes. This is essential, as one of the DBS CoE's fundamental beliefs is that only solutions that address root causes are of inherent value – generating a solution without understanding the true problem only adds to the problem.

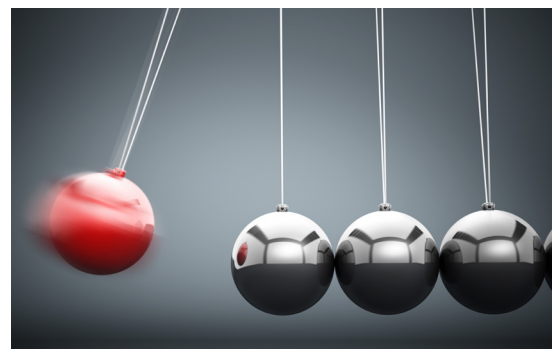
After successfully walking clients through its engagement process, the DBS CoE offers, as an added value, help in implementing solutions and/or recommendations to assessed problems via the following functional areas:

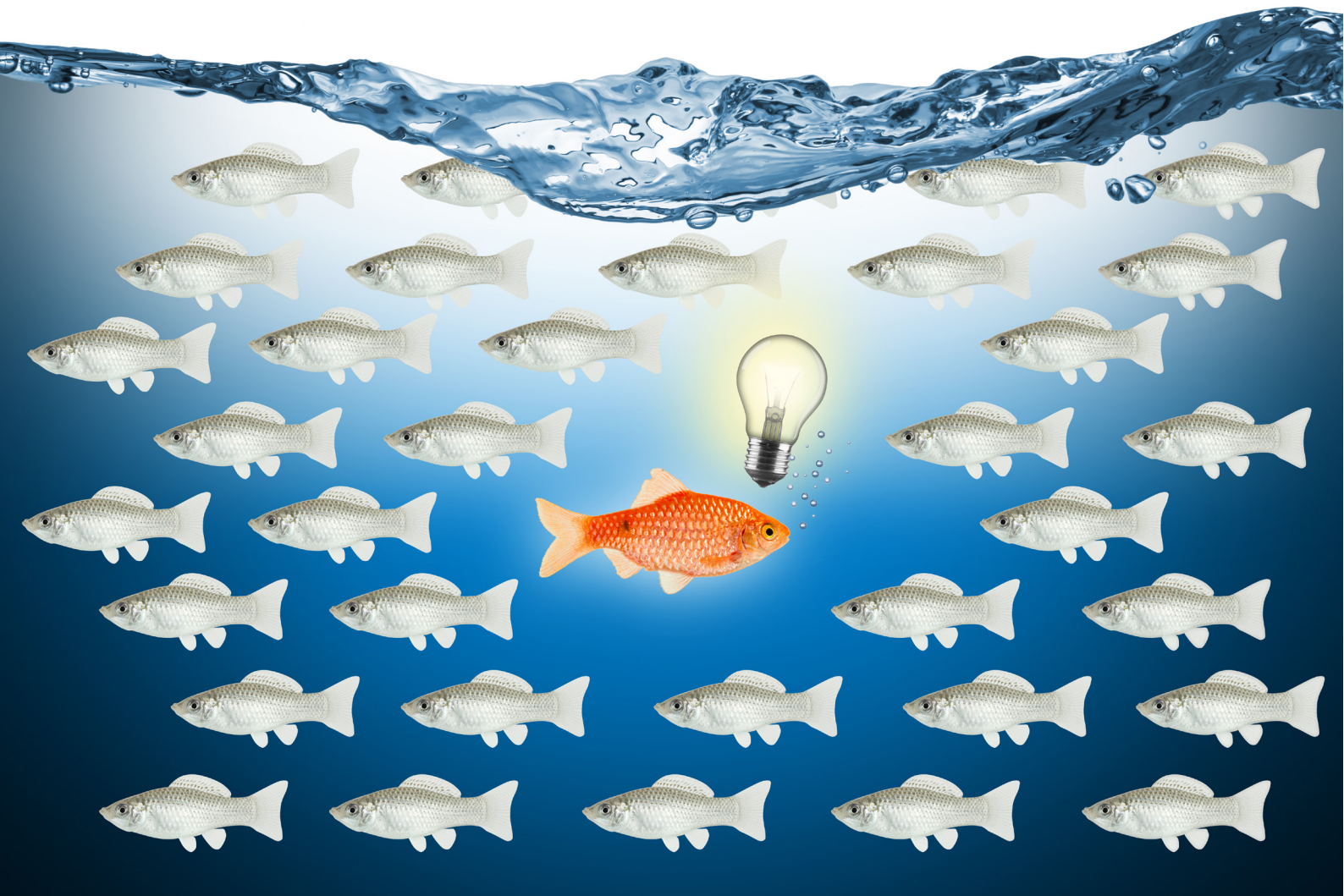
Enterprise Technology Management: the DBS CoE offers expertise in reducing the potential for redundant defense acquisitions and increased sharing of existing resources through road mapping and designing technology strategies and blueprints for the DBS enterprise.

Knowledge Management: the DBS CoE offers a specialized knowledge repository of best practices, lessons learned and change management methodologies to assist in programmatic changes and implementations.

Applied Innovation and Technology: the DBS CoE offers a space for small, emerging and established tech companies to vet promising new technologies on government systems to provide solutions to problems defined through the engagement process.

Whether clients are looking to improve a program with persistent issues, acquire a new business system or launch a brand-new initiative, the DBS CoE can ensure their success by assisting them in clearly defining the problem or obstacle, determining its root cause and presenting a slew of significant time and cost-saving recommendations and solutions.





Standup Activities

Beginnings of the DBS CoE

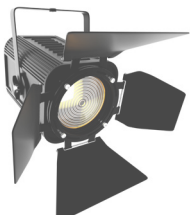
In Q3 of 2015, the Director of the DBS CoE, Adarryl Roberts, at the request of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Mr. Frank Kendall, assembled a subject-expert staff to assist in shaping and molding his vision for the organization. As part of this effort, the team initiated several planning sessions to identify the core purpose of the DBS CoE, define the core problem the DBS CoE is designed to solve and establish the initial requirements. The team used this information to draft the DBS CoE Concept of Operations (CONOPS) and charter, which is currently under review for approval. After crafting the CONOPS

and Charter, the DBS CoE laid the framework for executing the contents of these documents by creating a core mission statement, the organizational structure and a customer engagement process. He also assembled a marketing team, tasked with branding the DBS CoE, developing a web presence, organizing a launch event and creating cohesive communications and outreach to help the Department of Defense community understand the mission and purpose of the DBS CoE.

With these tools in place, Mr. Roberts and his team set out to solidify key relationships within the community.

He met with the Principal Director for the Deputy Chief Information Officer for Business Process and Systems Review (DCIO BPSR) Kevin Garrison to create synergies in enterprise technology aimed at decreasing technology costs and redundancies. Mr. Roberts and his team also met with the Program Executive Offices (PEOs) to uncover key program issues and challenges the DBS CoE could assist with, resulting in new initiatives for the organization.





Current DBS CoE Initiatives

The DBS CoE is currently assisting several programs via its vigorous engagement process. Here is a peek into its efforts.

CWS

Contract Writing System

The Standard Procurement System (SPS), a 20-year-old, contract writing system used, among others, by the 4th Estate agencies of the DOD, is scheduled to sunset in 2020. With the system becoming obsolete, the 4th Estate will have to seek an alternative solution for contract writing capabilities.

LeAntha Sumpter, Deputy Director, Program Development, Implementation, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, solicited the services of the DBS CoE to evaluate the need for a new contract writing system for the 4th Estate. This initiative, referred to as the Contract Writing System, is in the early stages of the DBS CoE engagement process. The DBS CoE team is in



the process of meeting with the 4th Estate POCs to better understand each agency's contract writing needs to determine the best way forward.

"Once we rid ourselves of traditional thinking we can get on with creating the future."

- Jimmy Bertrand



DOD FEDMALL

DOD Federal Mall

Department of Defense Electronic Mall (DOD EMall) is an e-commerce platform that allows military and other authorized government customers to search for and procure items from both

government and commercial sources. The program is currently modernizing its software platform to improve the customer experience. Scheduled to deploy in June 2016, the Department of Defense Federal Mall (FedMall) – a new-and-improved platform that will include a marketplace pilot

program with functionality similar to the Amazon.com® marketplace - will allow independent vendors the ability to provide goods and services to government customers without having to enter into long-term contractual agreements with the U.S. government. The marketplace will also include dynamic pricing functionality, providing for unprecedented pricing flexibility for the government buyer and vendor alike.

The DBS CoE has agreed to provide assistance to the DOD EMall program during its transition to FedMall. Working with the Program Management Office (PMO) the DBS CoE will help develop a clear strategy for FedMall by providing the tools by which to build communication, campaign and organizational management processes.



Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment

Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment is an initiative headed by LeAntha Sumpter designed to address and radically increase intercommunication and technology sharing between organizations within the procurement community.

In walking through the engagement process, the DBS CoE team began to uncover the root cause of communication gaps and found that some of the issues stemmed from products and services being developed in silos. To address this root-cause, the team is exploring the creation of a common platform to allow central access to various services throughout the procurement community and integration that supports the sharing of information, technologies and business processes.

The team is also advocating open source technology to prevent reliance on any one vendor. This type of shared service environment creates easy access for a broad community to procurement services while also supporting initiatives:

- Utilizing data analytics across multiple sources
- Decreasing the cost of system architecture and maintenance
- Increasing web accessibility through utilization of a cloud environment
- Promoting the reuse of services and knowledge

This initiative is especially exciting because a concept like this does not currently exist in this procurement community.



DataLake

DataLake

DataLake, an initiative headed by DBS CoE Chief of Technology and Innovation, Ajay Endlaw, is a centralized and interactive data reservoir utilizing open source software that is designed to retrieve information from disparate procurement data sources and provide near-instant reporting on a wide swath of data. The DBSCOPE is currently working with DPAP on a closed contract pilot utilizing DataLake technology and capabilities to provide:

- A robust view of a closed contract's full lifecycle
- Data analytic capabilities beyond traditional static reporting across multiple enterprise-level data sets
- Resolution to current reporting requirements and challenges
- Use of open source software
- Reduction in operational cost through legacy consolidation
- Assistance in the sunsetting of Standard Procurement System (SPS) sites

This initiative is an example of DBSCOPE's commitment to decreasing information silos, bridging data gaps, increasing transparency around procurement data and actively advocating Better Buying Power Initiatives.

DISA ERP CoE

Defense Information Systems Agency Enterprise Resource Planning CoE

The Defense Business Systems Center of Excellence (DBS CoE) is in the early stages of ushering the Defense Information Systems Agency Enterprise Resource Planning Center of Excellence (DISA ERP CoE) policy and practice through its initial engagement process. The initiative is being coordinated by DISA and the Program Executive Office Cross-Services Working Group (PEO-CSWG) to address efficiencies in how the Department of Defense and Services migrate ERP systems to the

DISA Defense Enterprise Computing Center (DECC) from their respective data centers. In staying true to the DBS CoE's engagement process, the DBS CoE team is working to identify the actual problem as they evaluate the joint environment and ascertain gaps in requirements that point to root causes. Additionally, DBS CoE efforts will assist DISA in preventing duplication of effort across ERP applications within the DECCs.

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit."

~Aristotle~

Let's keep in touch:

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